

Young - Friends' - Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

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KISSING THE ROD.

O heart of mine, we shouldn't worry so!
What we've missed of calm we couldn't have,
 you know!
What we've met in stormy pain,
And of sorrow's driving rain,
We can better meet again,
 If it blow!

We have erred in that dark hour, we have
 known,
When our tears fell with the shower, all alone!
Were not shine and shadow blent,
As the gracious Master meant?
Let us temper our content
 With His own.

For, we know, not every morrow can be sad;
So, forgetting all the sorrow we have had,
Let us fold away our fears,
And put by our foolish tears,
And through all the coming years,
 Just be glad.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

THE FRIEND AS A CITIZEN.

The duties of life are two-fold: First, those we owe to ourselves and those immediately connected with us. Secondly, those we owe to humanity in a general sense; and these are so intimately connected and merged to such a degree that we cannot neglect the one and at the same time fulfill the other, while in proportion as we discharge both do we render the highest service and the most perfect praise to the Author of our being. It is a part of the universal plan that man should be dependent upon man, and the higher the degree of development the more perfect and ideal the civilization, the greater is the ratio of this dependence.

Neither the world nor the individual has ever been made happier or better by the life of a selfish man or woman who shirked his or her duties or responsibilities. Under our form of government the individual is directly and

personally responsible for the public welfare and public morals, just as truly as he is responsible for his own private behavior. He has no more right to remain silent and inactive, under a state of political corruption, or indeed at any other time, than he has to remain a silent and passive observer of a burglary or homicide; and he is just as truly a partner in guilt in the one case as in the other. The fact that he may be able to live in a higher moral atmosphere, or is endowed with greater intellectual gifts than some others, only serves to enforce and emphasize the demand for his political activity.

A man who shirks his duties and responsibilities as a citizen can claim no higher degree of Christianity than he who will not pay his honest debts when able.

There can be no lower standard for public and political life than for private and social life. Integrity and industry in regard to his citizenship is just as essential as integrity and industry in any other relation.

The American who does not vote is a passive Anarchist. His influence is negative rather than positive; but it is just as surely on the wrong side,—unless, indeed, there be an inability on his part, and his influence be exerted in other directions, thus to overbalance his failure.

The man who does not fulfill his duties as a citizen cannot fulfill his duties as a Christian or as a Friend. Any teaching that would restrain a man from taking an active part in the solution of the questions which present themselves for consideration is most surely an error, and should be so regarded. The fact that politics are corrupt, and political life corrupting in its tendency, furnishes not the slightest excuse for neglect, but rather makes